

REST

FOR THE WEARY

Week of November 22, 2015

Approval

Rest for the Weary • Message 3

REMEMBER

A life connected to Jesus and his mission is a restful life.
A life that replaces Jesus or his mission with anything else will be restless.

Last week, we talked about the Idol of Achievement. How did you do at defeating the lies of achievement last week?

AN IDOL CALLED APPROVAL

In the story of Cain and Abel, we see Cain kill his brother because his brother got God's approval while Cain didn't. However, God told Cain that approval wasn't a competition. Anyone who does what is right receives the same approval. **Do you ever feel like approval is a competition—some get it and some don't?**

The story of Rehoboam in 1 Kings 12 shows us the danger of looking for approval from the wrong people. Who are the people from whom you most want approval?

Rehoboam became convinced that if he acted tough he would get the approval he wanted, but the older advisors knew that humility would have been the better path. What do you think of that?

In the story of Simon the Sorcerer (Acts 8:14-23), we see a person who's status was threatened and who tried to purchase something that would help him regain his approval among the people. How likely are you to buy things because they will get you approval? How likely are you to give things to get approval?

In the story of Mary and Martha with Jesus (Luke 10:38-42), we see Martha trying to get all the tasks done, but Mary was just spending time with Jesus, and Jesus approved of Mary's decision. What do you think of that?

TAKE IT HOME

We are so hungry for approval that we run ourselves restless in its pursuit, but it is chasing after something we already have. What do **Ephesians 3:12** and **2 Corinthians 5:20-21** teach you about God's approval?

Why are so many Christians focused on getting approval from God or others?

If you were 100% convinced that God fully approved of you and your life, what difference would that make?



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